



**Washington State Board of Nursing
Discipline Subcommittee Agenda – Revised
December 17, 2024
MINUTES
3:30 pm to 4:15 pm**

Click Here to Join the Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89717096607>

To Participate by Phone Only: +2532158782,,89717096607#

Zoom Meeting ID: 897 1709 6607

Committee Members: Sharon Ness, RN, Chair
Dawn Morrell, BSN, RN
Quiana Daniels, GCertHealthSc, BS, RN, LPN
Tiffany Randich, RN, Pro-Tem *not present*
Bliss Ali, RN, MN, ARNP, CNM, MPH, Pro-Tem *not present*
Karen Joiner, MS, ARNP, Pro-Tem
Michelle Dedeo DNP, ARNP-CNS, ACCNS-AG, CCRN, CNRN, SCRNP, Pro-Tem
Tracy Rude, LPN, Pro-Tem, ad hoc *not present*
Adam Canary, LPN *not present*

Staff: Catherine Woodard, Director, Discipline and WHPS
Karl Hoehn, JD, Assistant Director, Discipline – Legal
Grant Hulteen, Assistant Director, Discipline – Investigations and WHPS *excused*
Teresa Corrado, LPN, Complaint Intake Officer, ad hoc *excused*
Renae Powell, Case Manager
Barb Elsner, HSC
Margaret Holm, JD, RN, ad hoc
Mary Sue Gorski, PhD, RN, ARNP, Director, Research, ad hoc *not present*
Lynn Batchelder, Investigations Supervisor, ad hoc *not present*

No public members

1. **3:30 pm opening – Sharon**
 - a. Call to Order – Digital Recording Announcement
 - b. Roll Call of Board Members and Staff [Introductions](#)
2. **October 15, 2024 Minutes – Sharon**
 - a. In draft format until WABON approves at the business meeting on January 10, 2025
[Approved to take to WABON business meeting.](#)
3. **Performance Measures – October 2023-September 2024 – Catherine, Grant, Karl**
 - a. Investigations [Catherine provided highlights](#)
 - b. Legal [Karl provided highlights](#)
 - c. WHPS [Catherine provided highlights](#)
 - d. SUDRP [Catherine provided highlights](#)
4. **Procedure Review – Catherine**

[We have updated each of the procedures to reflect WABON and SUDRP, formatting consistent with the WABON procedures \(thanks, Bonnie!\), cleaned-up language, when necessary, more referrals to WHPS procedures as a cross reference, and current business practices. You'll notice that each procedure has a clean copy and a tracked changes copy. I have notes on each procedure's changes for your review and discussion....](#)

 - a. **W31.03 Program Eligibility and Admission Types**

[The only substantive changes here are the reference to changing a nurse's status from voluntary to in lieu of discipline if they are already in the WHPS program and have an open complaint. This was the case previously, but the language was not clear. Also, if a nurse does not meet a deadline for entry into the program as defined in a disciplinary order or referral contract, WHPS may refer to the compliance officer or SUDRP.](#)
 - b. **W40.03 Medication Use**

[Updated and clearer language around prescription reporting, but no change to the reporting frequency. Reworded the paragraph for reporting requirements for prescriptions when a nurse tests positive for prescribed medication and the consequence for not complying with that requirement, which is a referral to SUDRP. Updated/streamlined the paragraph on medical director review of prescription form reviews. Added a paragraph about the case manager consulting with the medical director about nurses who are using long-term opioids for pain management. This situation may require a referral to a pain management specialist and a written agreement for treatment.](#)
 - c. **W41.02 Short Term Analgesic Use**

[No substantive changes, just phraseology clean up.](#)
 - d. **W42.04 Drug and Alcohol Testing**

[Added the severity of mental health as a reason to adjust drug testing frequency. Structured the paragraphs to be consistent for each action regarding dilute samples, abnormal samples, and out-of-temperature samples. Previously, some of the information was in a narrative paragraph. It does not change the way we treat each occurrence.](#)
 - e. **W43.02 Missed Check-ins and Tests**

[Added the potential for increased testing frequency when a nurse misses three check-ins within a three-month period. This is consistent with other WHPS procedures.](#)
 - f. **W44.03 Unauthorized Substance Use**

[No substantive changes, just phraseology clean up.](#)

Update on staff changes with Cicely and Holly to case manager and operations manager, respectively. Not formal yet; is with HR.

5. Work Plan – Sharon, Catherine

Discussion about fines. CCW: not a revenue stream. Karl: can collect up to 5K in order, would likely go to hearing because they don't want to pay it. Even a STID is an enforceable judgement, but the problem is how to enforce a fine? How to collect? Issue another SOC to say they're out of compliance for not paying the fine. How to get the money? 2-4% success with getting money back when sent to collections. Extra workload. What should we hope to see? Will not solve the budget issue. If someone doesn't pay a fine, should we suspend given the nursing shortage?

6. Public Comment – Sharon

- a. Limited to two minutes per speaker

7. Anything For the Good of the Order? – All

- a. Portion of the agenda during which members may make statements or offer observations about the character or work of the subcommittee without having any particular item of business before the meeting.

Sharon – I hope everyone has a good holiday, Merry Christmas in my world, and good family time.

8. Adjournment 4:15pm.